

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 SAJ-01 MBFR-04 NIC-01 FAA-00

EB-11 CAB-09 COME-00 DRC-01 /158 W

----- 028308

R 051719Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO USMISSION BERLIN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7864

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 14519

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, ETRN, WB, UR

SUBJECT: REPLY TO SOVIET STATEMENT ON ATC PROCEDURES

REF: (A) BERLIN 1668 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 181760,

(C) BERLIN 1561, (D) BERLIN 1537

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING LENGTHY TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION
OF AIR MATTERS ON OCTOBER 3, UK REP STATED THATS THERE
COULD BE NO SUBSTANTIVE ALLIED REPLY TO SOVIET PRO-
POSALS IN BASC (REFTEL D) UNTIL ALLIES HAD OPPORTUNITY
TO CONSIDER WASHINGTON'S COMMENTS ON LUFTHANSA/TEGEL
PAPER. U.S. AND FRENCH, WHO WERE IN AGREEMENT WITH
ALL MAJOR U.S. POINTS, URGED CHANGE IN UK POSITION,
WITH BRITISH REP FINALLY SAYING THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS
PROHIBITED HIM FROM DOING SO. END SUMMARY

1. DURING TRIPARTITE AIR DISCUSSION ON OCTOBER 3
IT BECAME CLEAR THAT OVERRIDING UK CONCERN IS THAT
SOVIET CHIEF AIR CONTROLLER'S PROPOSALS MADE IN BASC
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ON SEPTEMBER 4 WILL GET ENTANGLED IN ALLIED ATTEMPTS

TO ENGAGE SOVIETS IN BASC ON TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR LUFTHANSA ENTRY INTO BCZ WITH, AS UK REP(CROMARTIE) PUT IT, "GHASTLY RESULTS." BRITISH CONSEQUENTLY INSIST ON OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON BONN GROUP PAPER RE LUFTHANSA FLIGHTS BEFORE GOING AHEAD WITH RESPONSE TO SOVIETS IN BASC. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT UK WOULD LIKE A CAREFULLY AND COMPLETELY WORKED-OUT SCENARIO ON ALL THREE ITEMS RAISED BY SOVIETS (REFTEL D) BEFORE PROCEEDING. ABOVE ALL, BRITISH WOULD NOT WANT ANY MENTION OF BARTCC-SCHOENEFELD LINK MADE TO SOVIETS AT PRESENT AS, THEY BELIEVE, THIS WOULD SURELY CONNECT SOVIET BASC PROPOSALS WITH LUFTHANSA PROBLEM. UK REP RECOMMENDED THAT ALLIES NOW MAKE NON-SUBSTANTIVE REPLY TO SOVIETS, ALONG LIPNES "WE ARE STUDYING PROPOSALS AND WILL REPLY IN DUE COURSE," ARGUING THAT SOVIETS THEMSELVES WOULD REPLY IN SUCH A WAY AND WOULD NOT REGARD THIS LINE AS SNUB. BRITISH DO NOT WANT TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE REPLY NOW, PARTICULARLY AS IT APPEARS THAT RESPONSE WOULD IN NO WAY BE A POSITIVE ONE.

2. U.S. REP SAID HE WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT UK REP NOT READY TO MAKE SUBSTANTIVE REPLY IN BASC. HE SAID THAT WE ALSO WOULD NOT LIKE TO HAVE CONNECTION MADE BETWEEN SOVIET BASC PROPOSALS AND LUFTHANSA MATTER, BUT DANGER OF THAT HAPPENING INCREASES AS TIME PASSES, MAKING SUBSTANTIVE REPLY IN BASC EVEN MORE URGENT. FURTHER, HE SAID, SINCE WE HAVE RAISED LINK SO OFTEN IN PAST, A NON-SUBSTANTIVE REPLY NOW WITH NO MENTION OF BARTCC-SCHOENEFELD LINK WOULD RAISE QUESTIONS IN SOVIET MIND AS TO IMPORTANCE ALLIES ATTACH TO IT. U.S. REP THEN NOTED THAT WE DID NOT THINK IT A GOOD IDEA TO LEAVE A UNANSWERED FOR LONG IMPLICATION IN SOVIET BASC PROPOSALS THAT THEY MAY HAVE INFLUENCE OR INPUT RE QUESTION OF LOCAL FLIGHTS, AND ADDED THAT ADDRESSING

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 14519

BARTCC-SCHOENEFELD LINK IN THIS CONTEXT COULD VERY WELL
RELIEVE THE TALKS ON LUFTHANSA FLIGHTS OF THIS
POSSIBLY TROUBLESOME BURDEN.

3. FRENCH REP (BELLESCIZE) SAID HE AGREED WITH U.S.
POINTS. HE NOTED THAT FRENCH ALSO DID NOT WANT TO
HAVE BASIC PROPOSALS CONNECTED WITH LUFTHANSA MATTER,
BUT SAID FRENCH FAVORED SUBSTANTIVE REPLY NOW TO
SOVIETS. HE SAID FRENCH POSITION WAS THAT LINK
SHOULD BE MENTIONED BUT NO HINT SHOULD BE GIVEN THAT
ALLIES WOULD TRADE LINK FOR SOVIET INPUT ON LOCAL
FLIGHTS, ON WHICH NO CONCESSION SHOULD BE MADE. HE
SAID IT WAS UP TO U.S. TO DECIDE AS TO PASSING
MANSBACH BEACON TIMES, AND THAT DECISION ON FLIGHT
APPROACH SHIFT SHOULD AWAIT TECHNICAL REPORT BUT
THAT SOME "GIVE" MIGHT BE POSSIBLE THERE.

4. UK REP SAID HE AGREED WITH FRENCH POSITION AS TO
DISPOSITION OF THREE ITEMS SOVIETS HAD RAISED IN BASIC,
BUT THAT, SINCE THE TEMPELHOF APPROACH IN QUESTION HAD
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BEEN USED ONLY ONCE IN RECENT YEARS, IT WAS DIFFICULT
TO UNDERSTAND WHY SOVIETS HAD RAISED IT. CROMARTIE
THEN REPEATED POSITION THAT ALLIES MUST HAVE STATE
DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON LUFTHANSA MATTER BEFORE PRO-
CEEDING. HE SAID A REPLY NOW, WHICH WOULD BE NEGATIVE
ON ALL POINTS, COULD LEAVE ALLIES IN WORSE POSITION
VIS-A-VIS SOVIETS ON LUFTHANSA MATTER. AFTER FURTHER
FRENCH-U.S. URGINGS, CROMARTIE SAID HIS INSTRUCTIONS
WOULD NOT ALLOW A SUBSTANTIVE REPLY, WHICH ENDED
DISCUSSION EXCEPT FOR FRENCH REP REMARK THAT HE HOPED
UK WOULD ASK FOR MORE FREEDOM IN FUTURE INSTRUCTIONS.

HILLENBRAND

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